

Message Text

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17

ACTION USIA-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CU-04 L-03 RSC-01 DRC-01 /032 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 308

INFO AMCONSUL NAHA

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STATE PASS USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, JA

SUBJECT: OKINAWA VOA RELAY STATION

SUMMARY: EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT IT BE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPATION IN PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IN LATTER PART OF MARCH FOR MID-MAY FORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON FUTURE OF VOA RELAY STATION ON OKINAWA.

ACTION REQUESTED: THAT APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS BE ISSUED TO EMBASSY TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN PREPARATORY CONFERENCE.

1. OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT, WHICH ENTERED INTO EFFECT MAY 15, 1972, PROVIDES IN ARTICLE VIII THAT USG AND GOJ QTE SHALL ENTER INTO CONSULTATION TWO YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THIS AGREEMENT ON FUTURE OPERATION OF THE VOICE OF AMERICA ON OKINAWA ISLAND UNQTE. WHILE THE CITED PROVISION MAKES NO REFERENCE TO TIMING FOR PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSULTATION, WE HAVE CONFIRMED INFORMALLY WITH FONOFF THAT GOJ WOULD BE AMENABLE TO HOLDING PREPARATORY SESSION IN LATTER PART OF MARCH. IN EMBASSY VIEW, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE SUCH PREPARATORY SESSION, AND WE CONSIDER THAT USIS AND VOA MAY BENEFIT ALSO FROM OBTAINING INDICATION OF GOJ POSITION RESPECTING RELAY STATION PRIOR TO FORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN MID-MAY.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED ATTEND PREPARATORY SESSION IN LATTER PART OF MARCH FOR PURPOSE NOT ONLY OF DEVELOPING

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR FORMAL SESSION, BUT ALSO FOR PURPOSE OF

ELICITING FROM GOJ EXPRESSION OF VIEWS IT LIKELY PUT FORWARD
IN MAY FORMAL CONSULTATION.

3. ACCORDINGLY, SUGGEST WE BE INSTRUCTED TO INDICATE TO GOJ
DURING PREPARATORY MEETING THAT USG POSITION RESPECTING DE-
SIRABILITY OF CONTINUING RELAY STATION ACTIVITY ON OKINAWA
REMAINS SAME AS THAT EXPRESSED TO GOJ DURING OKINAWA REVERSION
NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT WE THEREFORE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT
MAY CONSULTATIONS WILL BE DIRECTED TO QUESTION OF HOW OPERATIONS
OF RELAY STATION CAN BE CONTINUED ON OKINAWA AFTER 1977.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT INITIAL USG POSITION EXPRESSED AS
ABOVE WILL ELICIT GOJ VIEW OF ITS OWN POSITION, WHICH MAY BE
HELPFUL TO USG FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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